Background
Beginning during the 2020 election cycle, state and local election officials have been the targets of an alarming increase in violent threats and harassment. Much of this rise can be linked to the proliferation of unfounded claims of voter fraud and rigged elections. As a result, some states have put in place new laws that seek to explicitly protect the election officials who protect our democracy. These additional protections may include increased criminal penalties for threatening or harassing officials, interfering with officials in the performance of their duties, or allowing officials to have their personal information exempted from public records. Note: Generally applicable state laws may already be in place that can be used to protect election officials and prosecute perpetrators of threats or intimidation. This map is intended to track new state laws explicitly intended to protect election officials in response to the recent increase in threats and harassment.

Scoring
• State has a law protecting election officials against threats, 1 point
• State has not passed a law explicitly protecting election officials against threats, 0 points

Summary Table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>List</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State has not passed a law explicitly protecting election officials against threats</td>
<td>34 states &amp; D.C.</td>
<td>Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, D.C., Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Montana, Nebraska, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State has a law protecting election officials against threats</td>
<td>16 states</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State has not passed a law explicitly protecting election officials against threats</td>
<td>16 states</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

State-by-State Sources and More Detail

Alabama (0)
• State has not passed a law explicitly protecting election officials against threats

Alaska (0)
• State has not passed a law explicitly protecting election officials against threats

Arizona (0)
• State has not passed a law explicitly protecting election officials against threats

Arkansas (0)
• State has not passed a law explicitly protecting election officials against threats

California (1)
• State has a law protecting election officials from threats (CA SB 1131 (2022)).
Colorado (1)
  • State has a law protecting election officials from threats (CO HB 1273 (2022)).
Connecticut (0)
  • State has not passed a law explicitly protecting election officials against threats
Delaware (0)
  • State has not passed a law explicitly protecting election officials against threats
D.C. (0)
  • State has not passed a law explicitly protecting election officials against threats
Florida (0)
  • State has not passed a law explicitly protecting election officials against threats
Georgia (0)
  • State has not passed a law explicitly protecting election officials against threats
Hawaii (0)
  • State has not passed a law explicitly protecting election officials against threats
Idaho (0)
  • State has not passed a law explicitly protecting election officials against threats
Illinois (0)
  • State has not passed a law explicitly protecting election officials against threats
Indiana (1)
  • State has a law protecting election officials against threats (IN SB 170 (2024)).
Iowa (0)
  • State has not passed a law explicitly protecting election officials against threats
Kansas (0)
  • State has not passed a law explicitly protecting election officials against threats
Kentucky (0)
  • State has not passed a law explicitly protecting election officials against threats
Louisiana (0)
  • State has not passed a law explicitly protecting election officials against threats
Maine (1)
- State has a law protecting election officials from threats (ME HB 1354 (2022)).

Maryland (1)
- State has a law protecting election officials from threats (MD HB 585 (2024)).

Massachusetts (0)
- State has not passed a law explicitly protecting election officials against threats

Michigan (1)
- State has a law protecting election officials from threats (MI HB 4129 (2023)).

Minnesota (1)
- State has a law protecting election officials from threats (MN HF 1830 (2023)).

Mississippi (0)
- State has not passed a law explicitly protecting election officials against threats

Missouri (0)
- State has not passed a law explicitly protecting election officials against threats

Montana (0)
- State has not passed a law explicitly protecting election officials against threats

New Hampshire (1)
- State has a law protecting election officials against threats (NH SB 405 (2022)).

New Jersey (0)
- State has not passed a law explicitly protecting election officials against threats

New Mexico (1)
- State has a law protecting election officials against threats (NM HB 4 (2023)).

New York (0)
- State has not passed a law explicitly protecting election officials against threats
North Carolina (0)
  • State has not passed a law explicitly protecting election officials against threats
North Dakota (0)
  • State has not passed a law explicitly protecting election officials against threats
Ohio (0)
  • State has not passed a law explicitly protecting election officials against threats
Oklahoma (1)
  • State has a law protecting election officials against threats (OK SB 481 (2023)).
Oregon (1)
  • State has a law protecting election officials from threats (OR HB 4144 (2022)).
Pennsylvania (0)
  • State has not passed a law explicitly protecting election officials against threats
Rhode Island (0)
  • State has not passed a law explicitly protecting election officials against threats
South Carolina (0)
  • State has not passed a law explicitly protecting election officials against threats
South Dakota (0)
  • State has not passed a law explicitly protecting election officials against threats
Tennessee (0)
  • State has not passed a law explicitly protecting election officials against threats
Texas (0)
  • State has not passed a law explicitly protecting election officials against threats
Utah (0)
  • State has not passed a law explicitly protecting election officials against threats
Vermont (1)
  • State has a law protecting election officials against threats (VT SB 265 (2022)).
Virginia (0)
  • State has a law protecting election officials against threats (VA SB 364 (2024)).
Washington (1)
- State has a law protecting election officials against threats (WA SB 5628 (2022)).

West Virginia (0)
- State has not passed a law explicitly protecting election officials against threats

Wisconsin (1)
- State has a law protecting election officials against threats (WI SB 822 (2024)).

Wyoming (0)
- State has not passed a law explicitly protecting election officials against threats

**Democracy Map & Additional Resources**

- See our Democracy Map, [Laws Protecting Election Officials Against Threats](#), which is updated in real time.